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Signor Bettini, both of whom were thoroughly successful, the lady being encored in "Non più mesta." Mr. Cusius conducted with his accustomed care.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

THAT no Institution is more thoroughly deserving of the support of the Government than the Royal Academy of Music was proved beyond doubt by the excellent Concert of the pupils, which took place at the Hanover Square Rooms, on Saturday morning, the 24th ult. In every respect this was one of the most interesting performances lately given by the Academy, for not only were the executants of the highest promise, but several of the compositions by the students were more than ordinarily attractive. The first movement of Mr. Wingham's Symphony in D minor is well written, and instrumented with much skill. There is method in the treatment of the themes, which amply proved that a good system of training had been brought to bear upon his natural talents. The Quartet, "Wake, dearest love," by Mr. Richards (student), is effective, and was well sung by Miss Goode, Miss Greenaway, Mr. Shakespeare, and Mr. Parry. Miss Lanham's singing of Beethoven's "Know'st thou the Land," was marked by intelligence, and a real musical feeling which cannot fail to ensure her a bright future. The first and last movements of Bach's Concerto in C minor, for two pianofortes, followed, (in which Miss Field and Miss Salmon played with much precision and steadiness) and then Miss Marion Severn, who is gradually making a name out of the Academy, gave an effective rendering of "Ah! quel giorno." The execution of the first movement of Dussek's Pianoforte Concerto in B flat, by Miss Waite, was remarkable, considering the age of the performer—apparently not more than thirteen. No more genuine and deserved success was created during the whole morning; for apart from the neat manner in which the passages were played, there was a real style in her performance, and a clear conception of the meaning of the composer, quite refreshing to those who believe that artists should be trained to rely upon themselves, and not to aim at becoming cold copies of their masters. After Vaccaj's Recitative and Air, "Ah! se tu dormi," well sung by Miss R. Jewell, a Motet by Mr. Alwyn (student), was given, which, although unequal, contained some of the best "young" writing we have heard for some time, especially in the chorus, in eight parts, "Hosanna in the highest." Mr. Shakespeare, in the first movement of his Pianoforte Concerto in C, fully sustained the high reputation he has acquired in the Institution, both as a composer and an executant; Miss Ferrari displayed an excellent voice and most refined style in "Bel Raggitto"; and in the unaccompanied part-song "Scattered flowers," by Shepherd (student), there was much to commend. Another excellent performance was the first movement from Schumann's Pianoforte Concerto in A minor, by Miss Linda Scates, which created a marked effect, and was most deservedly applauded. Miss Christian's singing in Macfarren's "Christmas Cantata," was scarcely like that of a student. So much artistic feeling and truth of expression, allied to an excellent and sympathetic voice, seemed to take the audience by surprise; and at the end of the composition, she was recalled, amidst enthusiastic applause. Cipriani Potter's two "Pezzi di Bravura," were excellently played on the pianoforte, by Miss Vokins; and after Spohr's Trio, "Night's ling'ring shades," well given by Miss Ferrari, Miss R. Jewell, and Miss Severn, another composition by a student (Mr. Brion), "Praise the Lord," proved unmistakably that a talent is fast rising in the Institution which must soon assert itself. Between the parts, Mr. Bernard, one of the Directors of the Academy, spoke a few words in its praise; and then the prizes were distributed by Mrs. Gladstone, the names of the recipients being announced by the Principal, Professor Sterndale Bennett, to whose unwearied exertions the excellent position of the Institution is mainly owing. The prizes were awarded as undermentioned:

Silver Medals.—Misses Severn and Scates, and Mr. Alwyn.

Bronze Medals.—Misses Lanham, Waite, and Field; Messrs. Richards and Wingham.

Books.—Misses Christian, Sophy Ferrari, Jessie Ferrari, Newman, Pocklington, Salmon, Mary Taylor, and Vokins, Messrs. Parry, Shepherd, Cook, and Beardwell.

Letters of recommendation to those who already have received silver medals.—Miss Rebecca Jewell, and Messrs. Shakespeare and Kemp.

The Concert was most ably conducted by Mr. W. G. Cusins.

A CONCERT, given by M. Jacques Blumenthal, on behalf of the Royal Society of Musicians, has proved so successful, that a cheque has been forwarded to the treasurer of the Institution for £250, in addition to which M. Blumenthal has become an annual subscriber of £5 to the Society. Such a disinterested act of kindness adds one more to the many evidences on record how deeply sympathetic and widely spread is the brotherhood of art.

AFTER some discussion, the Government grant of £500 to the Royal Academy of Music (which had been withheld for a twelvemonth), passed the House of Commons on Thursday, the 22nd ult.

THE arrangements for the forthcoming Musical Festivals are now completed. At Norwich the novelties will be a selection from a sacred work, by H. H. Pierson, called *Hezekiah*, and a sacred Cantata, *A Song of Praise*, by H. Hill. One of the most interesting features in the programme of the morning performances will be Spohr's *Fall of Babylon*, an Oratorio so rarely heard as to be almost new to many of the present generation. Rossini's *Messe Solennelle* and Handel's *Dettingen Te Deum* will also be included in the evening performances; and on the last day, as usual, Handel's *Messiah* will be given. The principal works at the evening concerts will be Mendelssohn's *Hymn of Praise*, and Handel's *Acis and Galatea*. The vocalists engaged are Madlle. Tietjens, Madlle. Ilma de Murska, Madame Talbot Cherer, Madame Patey, Madame Trebelli Bettini, Signori Bettini and Foli, Messrs. Vernon Rigby, W. H. Cummings and Santley. Conductor, Mr. Benedict. Mr. Sullivan's new work, *The Prodigal Son*, will be anxiously expected by all interested in that young composer's career, and will, indeed, be the only novelty at the Worcester Festival. *Elijah*, a selection from *Judas Maccabæus*, Rossini's *Messe Solennelle*, Mendelssohn's *Hymn of Praise*, and the *Messiah*, will be the other works at the morning performances; and the evening concerts, in the College Hall, will include Barnett's Cantata, *The Ancient Mariner*. Mendelssohn's *Walburgis Night*, and several operatic selections. The principal vocalists will be Madlle. Tietjens, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Madame Patey, Mr. Sims Reeves, Signor Bettini, Mr. Vernon Rigby, Mr. Santley and Mr. Lewis Thomas; organist, Mr. Townshend Smith; pianist, Dr. Wesley, and conductor, Mr. Done. At Norwich, the Festival commences on the 30th inst., and at Worcester, on the 7th September.

OUR prediction respecting the amalgamation of the two Italian Opera houses has already been verified; for, although the present season has come to an end without any serious dissensions being made public, it is confidently asserted that a formidable opposition, including nearly all the principal vocalists, and most, we believe, of the members of the band of the Royal Italian Opera, will be started next year. Whatever may be the fate of this enterprise, the experience of a single season has fully proved that a monopoly such as we have been subjected to must be highly detrimental both to art and artists.

MISS AGNES ZIMMERMANN gave a morning Concert at the Hanover Square Rooms, on the 26th June, when a very excellent selection of chamber music was

given. This young artist has been lately so prominently before the public, and her exceptional talent as a first class pianist has been so generally acknowledged, that we need do no more than say that she fully sustained her reputation on the present occasion, playing Mendelssohn's Fantasia in F sharp minor, especially, with even more than her usual energy and brilliancy. The concerted pieces were Beethoven's Sonata in C minor, for pianoforte and violin, Schubert's Rondeau in B minor, for the same instruments, and Schumann's three Fantasia-stücke, for pianoforte and clarinet. In these pieces she was assisted by Mr. Henry Holmes (violin), and Mr. Lazarus (clarinet). Sterndale Bennett's graceful "Rondo Piacevole," and some pieces by Brahms, were included amongst Miss Zimmermann's solos, in all of which she exhibited not only the most facile execution, but the utmost refinement of expression. Madlle. De Facius and Mr. W. H. Cummings were the vocalists, the gentleman singing the Concert-giver's song, "The Exile," with marked effect.

MR. JOHN THOMAS'S annual Concert, at the Hanover Square Rooms, on the 1st ult., was attended by a large and fashionable audience. The harp performance of the Concert-giver was of course the principal feature in the programme; and well as he always plays, we have scarcely ever heard him more successful than on the present occasion. Two solos, "La Meditation," and "L'Esperance," and a new duet from *Faust*, for harp and pianoforte (in which he was ably assisted by Mr. Benedict were amongst the best of Mr. Thomas's performances, the latter piece being the joint composition of the executants. Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Megan Watts, Miss Elena Angèle, M. Jules Lefort, Messrs. Cummings and Lewis Thomas, were the vocalists; and Mr. Henry Holmes (violin), and Mr. J. Balsir Chatterton (harp), also lent valuable assistance. The conductors were Messrs. Benedict and Randegger.

MISS ELLEN JARMAN, pupil of Mr. Lansdowne Cottell, gave a Concert at St. George's Hall, on the 6th ult., when she displayed much talent as a pianist in several classical works, including the "Kreutzer" Sonata, in which she enjoyed the valuable co-operation of Mr. N. Mori. She was assisted by several of Mr. Cottell's pupils in the vocal department.

THE results of the examinations in Music, at the Society of Arts, which have lately been made known, show that Tonic Sol-fa pupils have repeated their successes of former years. In the examination which Mr. G. A. Macfarren conducts in Elementary Musical Composition, the paper may be worked either in ordinary or Tonic Sol-fa notation, and the examination is open on equal terms to students of every system, the Tonic Sol-faists giving the prizes and paying the expenses of the examination. Only three out of the 55 certificates are, however, awarded to other than Tonic Sol-faists. This does not detract from the value of the certificates, since they are records of positive and not comparative attainment. In Mr. John Hullah's examination, in the Theory of Music, conducted strictly in ordinary notation and nomenclature, both the prize-men, and half those obtaining first-class certificates, are pupils of Tonic Sol-fa teachers. This is the third year that both the prizes have gone to this school of music.

MR. WILLIAM BEAVAN lately gave a Concert at the Assembly Rooms, Eyre Arms, for the benefit of the Widow and Orphans of the late incumbent of St. Mary's, Kilburn, (the Rev. G. R. Adam). He was assisted by the following artists: Miss Edith Wynne, Madlle. Enequist, Madame Florence Lancia, Miss Katherine Poyntz, Miss Fanny Holland, Miss Abbott, Miss J. Royd, Senor di Montis (amateur), Mr. Stanton, Signor Tito Mattei, Mr. J. F. Barnett, Herr Buzian, Mr. Lazarus, Mr. T. H. Wright, Signor Pezze, Signor Bevigiani, Mr. J. Beavan, Mr. Barth, &c. Mr. W. Beavan's Choir gave, with other

works, an excellent rendering of Schubert's Cantata, *The Song of Miriam*, Miss K. Poyntz, in the solo, highly distinguishing herself. The Concert was largely and fashionably attended, and was a decided success.

By a bundle of programmes lately forwarded to us from Philadelphia, we see that the "Orchestra Matinée," given under the direction of Carl Sentz and Mark Hassler, on Saturday afternoons, have been of a character eminently suited to elevate the taste for music amongst the inhabitants of this city. A first class symphony has been performed at each Concert; and the lighter portions of the selection have always been carefully considered. Mendelssohn's "Reformation Symphony," the "Cornelius March," by the same composer, and Schubert's "Unfinished Symphony" have been amongst the most attractive features at these entertainments, the success of which should embolden some artistic capitalist to attempt a series of similar Matinées in our metropolis.

THE North West Temperance Association gave an entertainment at Milton Hall, Kentish Town, on the evening of Tuesday, the 6th ult., which was highly successful. The Kentish Town Union Notation Choral Society, under the conductorship of Mr. R. Semple, sang some glees and part-songs in excellent style. The part-songs "Savourna Deelish," and Hume's "Now at moonlight's fairy hour," were especially well rendered. The duet, "O lovely peace," sung by the Misses White, and the "Nightingale," by Miss Edwards, were much admired, the latter receiving a well-merited encore.

AN Account of the Music performed at the opening of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, at Hankow, may interest some of our readers; and we, therefore, insert a press-copy of the choir directions on the occasion, which has been forwarded to us by a correspondent.—*Opening of the Church of St. John the Evangelist*.—There will be no voluntary; but, as soon as the bell ceases ringing, the chorus, "Lift up your heads," will be sung. *The Venite* to the "Grand Chant," sung as follows: verses 1 and 2, Full; verse 3, by the Decani (reading-desk side); 4, by Cantoris (organ side); Gloria Patri, Full. Gloria to Psalms, Full. *Te Deum*, Jackson, Full. *Jubilate*, No. 6, Mercer; sung as *Venite*. *Anthem*, after Third Collect; "Comfort ye my people;" "Hallelujah Chorus." During the solo, the choir will please remain seated. *Hymn* 51, Mercer, verses 1, 2, 5, 6; verse 1, Full; 2, Decani; 5, Cantoris; last, Full. *Responses to Commandments*, Mendelssohn, Full. *Gloria before Gospel*, Doxology after, No. 2, Mercer, Full. *Hymn* 387, Mercer, verse 1 and 4, Full; 2, Decani; 3, Cantoris.

WE have received a letter from a correspondent, who signs himself "A poor lover of Music," complaining that Concert Tickets are, as a rule, bought up by agents, and sold to the public at a price far beyond that advertised by the Concert-giver. There is nothing new in this. Mr. Charles Dickens, during his readings in America, told his audience that he should be glad to appear some evening before a comparatively empty room, if the public, by refusing to purchase tickets at an advanced rate, could thus throw them upon the hands of those who lived by such a system. We should be glad if a remedy like this could be tried in London; for assuredly the evil is rapidly spreading.

MR. LORAINÉ, whose name was for many years associated with the publications of Messrs. Novello and Co., the words of several of the Masses of Haydn, Mozart, &c., and the English text of Spohr's *Last Judgment* (in which he was assisted by Miss Emily Gregg), having been supplied by him, died on the 27th April last, aged 77 years, and was buried in Salcombe Regis Church-yard.